

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

EA-07 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

COME-00 TAR-01 /091 W

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R 061740Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5472

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00194

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, PFOR, GW

SUBJ: FRG VIEWS ON STATE OF NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE

AND MTNS

1. DURING CONVERSATION JANUARY 5, LAUTENSCHLAGER,
MFA ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY,
TOLD ECON/COMM MINISTER THAT HE THOUGH ELECTORAL
CLIMATE IN FRG AND US WOULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO
FOCUS ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN
1976. LAUTENSCHLAGER EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL CONCERN
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THAT INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WILL BE TEMPTED TO RELY

TOO MUCH ON RHETORIC ALONE IN COUNTERING LDC DEMANDS. HE DID NOT THINK THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES COULD GET BY WITH SIMPLE REFORMULATIONS OF PREVIOUS PROPOSALS SUCH AS THOSE PUT FORTH AT UNGA 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. WITHOUT CONCEDED ON OUR FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS, HE WAS OF THE OPINION WE WILL HAVE TO COME FORTH WITH NEW IDEAS, AT NAIROBI AS WELL AS IN CIEC FRAMEWORK. HE RECOGNIZED THAT ELECTION CAMPAIGN WOULD MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR EACH OF US TO CONTINUE TO TAKE LEAD IN TABLING NEW PROPOSALS, BUT HOPED THAT WE COULD NEVERTHELESS BE ABLE TO ACT.

2. LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID IT WAS ALSO BEGINNING TO BE DIFFICULT FOR MFA TO GET HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION FOR MANY OF THESE MATTERS GOING BEYOND THE USUAL CHRISTMAS SEASON EUPHORIA.

3. LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID IT WAS NOT GOING TO BE EASY TO GET COORDINATED POSITIONS IN PREPARATION FOR CIEC OPERATIONS. AGREEMENT AMONG THE NINE MUST FIRST BE ACHIEVED, NOT EASY IN ITSELF, THEN POSITIONS MUST BE COORDINATED WITH THE US, JAPAN, AND WITH THE OTHER FIVE. DESPITE THIS CUMBERSOME PROCESS, HE THOUGHT THAT THE RECORD OF THE NINE HAS BEEN RELATIVELY GOOD. THIS HAS BEEN DUE IN PART TO HAVING THE SAME PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS, FOR THEY UNDERSTAND NOT ONLY THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE RELATIVELY COMPLEX ISSUES INVOLVED BUT THE NEGOTIATING POSITIONS OF EACH OTHER. THIS EC-9 COORDINATING APPARATUS THUS WORKED FAIRLY WELL AT CIEC. HOWEVER, LAUTENSCHLAGER THOUGHT THAT PARIS CONSULTING MECHANISM FOR COORDINATING VIEWS OF ALL INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS COULD BE IMPROVED. ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT SPECIFIC ON THIS SCORE, (N.B. AMBASSADOR ROBERT IS RESPONSIBLE TO LAUTENSCHLAGER), HE THOUGHT COORDINATION WOULD HAVE TO BE AND COULD BE DONE IN PARIS AMONG OUR REPRESENTATIVES.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00194

4. IN LAUTENSCHLAGER'S VIEW, MTNS SHOULD ALSO BE MAJOR AREA FOR ATTENTION DURING 1976. HE RECALLED THAT DURING AMBASSADOR WALKER'S VISIT LAST NOVEMBER, HE AND WALKER AGREED THAT MTNS COULD ONLY MOVE FORWARD IF THEY RECEIVED ACTIVE POLITICAL SUPPORT. SINCE THIS IS DIFFICULT IN AN ELECTION YEAR, LAUTENSCHLAGER SAW NO HARM IN HAVING A CRISIS OR TWO IN THE MTN TO FOCUS POLITICAL ATTENTION ON THE NEGOTIATIONS AND THUS TO KEEP THINGS MOVING. WHILE HE DID NOT THINK WE SHOULD TRY TO MANUFACTURE
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CRISES, LAUTENSCHLAGER RECOMMENDED THAT WE NOT TRY TO AVOID THEM.

5. IN REVIEWING OTHER TRADE ISSUES, LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID HE WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED THAT RESTRICTIONS WHICH BRITISH FINALLY IMPOSED TURNED OUT TO BE SO INSIGNIFICANT AFTER ALL. FRG HAD RESPONDED WITH STRONG STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD, DESIGNED MAINLY TO DISCOURAGE OTHERS FROM FOLLOWING SUIT. HE WAS PLEASED BY US FLOAT GLASS DECISION, BUT NOTED THAT OUTCOME OF AUTOMOBILE ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATIONS WOULD HAVE MUCH GREATER IMPACT IN GERMANY.
HILLENBRAND

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